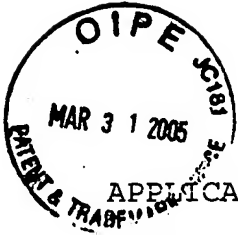


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(s): Thompson et al.

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EXAMINER: Duong, T. V.

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ATTORNEY

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Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner of Patents
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AMENDMENT

I. INTRODUCTION

This is in response to the Office Action mailed 29 December 2004 in regard to the above-identified patent application. Reconsideration of the rejection of the claims is respectfully solicited in light of the following remarks.